



Ellanor C. Lawrence Park

Animals and their Habitats

visit our website, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parl/ecl

Teacher's Outline

Grades 3-6

This is a basic outline of the "Animals and their Habitats" program at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park. The specifics may vary according to the needs of the group, the weather and unforeseen situations.

Time: 1.0 hour

1. Presentation/Discussion.

A. What animals need to survive.

-food, water, shelter, space

B. Why we don't see more animals when we're in the woods.

C. What evidence exists that animals live near us.

D. What are some possible foods and hiding places for local wildlife?

2. Preparation for hike.

A. Children are paired up and given a wild animal card. The food, shelter and space required for the animals are listed on the backs of the animal cards.

B. The children are instructed to determine if their animal could live in the park based on the food and shelter found.

3. Hike.

A. Park staff will point out the following things listed on the back of the cards during the hike:

-different wildlife habitats (forest edges, open areas, etc.),

-food (berries, nuts, tree buds, worms and slugs under a log, etc),

-shelters (holes in trees, thick vegetation, etc.)

B. The parent chaperones and teachers will be asked to help their assigned students look for the habitat, food and shelter listed on the back of their students= cards.

4. Summary and questions.

Students will be asked to tell if they found the things needed by the animals on their cards. Could their animals live in the park?

SOL points reviewed : 3.4, 3.5,3.6, 3.8, 4.4, 4.5, 5.5, 5.6.